

## Positive Alternatives 2014 - 15 Quarterly Update

**Grantee: Caring Pregnancy Center (dba Options Pregnancy Center)**

**Goal: To provide necessary services and referrals to pregnant and parenting women in south-central MN**

**For the period: April 1 – June 30, 2015**

| Activity or Service                              | Activity or Service Description<br>Major Work Plan Activities   | Work Plan Count | <b>Program Progress and Accomplishments</b><br>Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.  | Report Count |
|--|---|-----------------|--|--------------|
| <b>Administrative Activities</b>                 | Provide guidance to grant staff; complete grant forms; attend required grant meetings; hire and coordinate on-going training of grant staff                                       |                 | Reviewing training materials and opportunities for Client Advocates. Continuing with training of new PA staff – Client Advocate and Work Readiness Project Coordinator         |              |
| <b>Outreach</b>                                  | Provide medically accurate website; advertise in local venues; distribute posters and brochures; advertise on local buses   |                 | Continuing to distribute posters and brochures to area referring agencies. Working with local group to place 2 highway signs.  |              |
| <b>Case Management Services</b>                  | Provide on-going telephone and/or office appointments for clients testing positive for pregnancy  | 18              | Client Advocate provides ongoing office visits with clients during pregnancy and after. Phone calls are made when client is unable to come for an office visit.                | 48           |
| <b>Crib Distribution/ Sleep Safety Education</b> | Enroll clients in Sleep Safely Program; provide information and education on safe sleep, pregnancy, infant care, and parenting; provide crib; deliver and assemble crib if needed | 36              | Program continues to be well received by clients. Some referrals from other agencies, most referrals from past participants. Program has strong community support.             | 37           |
| <b>Employment Assistance</b>                     | Enroll participants in Work Readiness Project; conduct assessment of work readiness skills; provide work station and mentoring; provide evaluation, incentive and references      | 32              | Participation in the program has remained steady. One client found full time employment, two on maternity leave, and one entered a treatment facility for chemical dependency. | 64           |

| <b>Activity or Service</b>                         | <b>Activity or Service Description</b><br>Major Work Plan Activities   | <b>Work Plan Count</b> | <b>Program Progress and Accomplishments</b><br>Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.   | <b>Report Count</b> |
|--|--|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| <b>Life-Skills Education Program</b>               | Provide life-skills educational components for program participants as needs are identified  | 16                     | Project staff, Client Advocate, and mentors have provided participants with information on budgeting, time management, job applications, housing, relationships and parenting.  | 24                  |
| <b>Material Support</b>                            | Provide material assistance and basic housekeeping needs to pregnant and parenting women   | 16                     | We continue to provide diapers on an emergency basis. Many of our clients also receive assistance from our thrift store/job training site.  | 39                  |
| <b>Mental Health</b>                               | Provide individual substance abuse education; provide referrals for ongoing alcohol/drug counseling; provide relationship counseling | 5                      | Client Advocate has completed additional education in relationship counseling. We continue to see an increase in clients in treatment programs or the legal system due to drug abuse. Meth use has had a dramatic increase in the area. | 14                  |
| <b>Nutrition</b>                                   | Provide infant formula and baby food; provide nutrition education; provide WIC and food shelf referrals                              | 5                      | The requests for formula have increased, especially requests for specialty formulas. Local food shelves now distribute baby food which has reduced the requests from our clients.   | 17                  |
| <b>Parenting Education</b>                         | Provide parenting education with incentives  | 30                     | Client Advocate provides parenting education on an ongoing basis up to one year after birth if client requests.   | 49                  |
| <b>Pregnancy Education</b>                         | Provide pregnancy education with incentives  | 36                     | Pregnancy education is a large part of our crib program. New materials have been purchased to help with pregnancy education.  | 38                  |
| <b>Provide Necessary Services Assessments Only</b> | Staff provides clients only intake assessments, information on, referral to and assistance with securing necessary services          | 2                      | Intake assessments are completed with all new clients. Most return for additional services.   | 2                   |
| <b>Transportation</b>                              | Provide gas cards or bus tokens for clients to attend Center or medical appointments   | 3                      | Bus tokens and gas cards have been beneficial in helping clients keep their appointments. Several clients from neighboring communities have increased our use of gas cards.   | 7                   |

| <b>Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies</b>   | No. |
|---|-----|
| <i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>                     | 0   |
| <i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>                              | 1   |
| <i>Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>                            | 12  |
| <i>Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>      | 12  |
| <i>Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity</i> | 5   |
| <i>Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>                                 | 3   |

**Challenges:**

**Comments:**